Primitive Baptist Association. Fishers River.

Minutes

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MINUTES
OF THE
FISHERS RIVER PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

THE EIGHTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION
Held with the church at Pilot Mountain, in the town of Pilot Mountain, North Carolina, on Friday, Saturday and second Sunday, August 11th, 12th, and 13th, 1916.

OFFICERS:

Elder W. H. Atkinson, Mod., R. 1, Round Peak, N. C.
Elder F. P. Stone, Clerk, R. 1, Francisco, N. C.

Printed at the
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1916.

MINISTERS AND THEIR POSTOFFICE ADDRESSES.

ELDERS

G. Denny,.....R. 3, Pinnacle, N. C.
A. M. Denny,.....R. 3, Pinnacle, N. C.
C. B. Denny,.....R. 3, Pinnacle, N. C.
H. Cain,.....R. 2, Pilot Mountain, N. C.
J. H. Moran,.....Pinnacle, N. C.
G. O. Key,.....Pilot Mountain, N. C.
W. H. Atkinson,.....R. 1, Round Peak, N. C.
H. D. Mickey,.....R. 2, Pinnacle, N. C.
W. M. Stone,.....Pilot Mountain, N. C.
J. M. Royal,.....Roaring Gap, N. C.
J. L. Pyrtle,.....R. 1, Westfield, N. C.
F. P. Stone,.....R. 1, Francisco, N. C.
George Denny,.....R. 3, Pinnacle, N. C.
James Creed,.....R. 1, Ararat, N. C.
D. Collins,.....R. 2, Pinnacle, N. C.
R. H. Riggan,.....R. 2, Dobson, N. C.
L. T. Tucker,.....R. 2, Pinnacle, N. C.
J. R. Cruise,.....Mt. Airy, N. C.
Jessie Dunbar,.....Rockford, N. C

LICENTIATES.

W. J. Key,.....Ararat, N. C.
J. Key,.....R. 3, Kernersville, N. C.
J. S. Morrison,.....R. 1, Mt. Airy, N. C.
Charlie Adams,.....R. 2, Pilot Mountain, N. C.

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PROCEEDINGS.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment with the church at Pilot Mountain, Surry County, N. C., on

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 1916.

1. The introductory sermon was preached by Elder R. P. Vass, of New River Association, from Matt. 18:3; "Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven."

2. The messengers, after a recess, met in the house, with prayer by Elder J M. Royal.

3. Elder E. M. Barnard and G. M. Trent, of Mayo Association, were selected to preach in the Missionary Baptists' house in the afternoon.

4. Received and read letters from all the churches, except Fishers Gap, and seated Messengers, as may be seen in the Statistical Table.

5. Seated correspondents and visitors, from sister associations, as follows: From Mayo, Elders E. M. Barnard, J. R. Wilson, N. B. Gilbert, G. M. Trent and Brethren J. D. Young, J. T. Payne, Hassell Tilley, T. C. Hall, J. W. Sehen, T. W. Tilley, J. Frank Mills, J. Fletcher Mills and Henry C. Lackey; From Salem, J. W. Hutchens, D. R. Stafford, J. H. McCain, Geo. Ziglar, P. S. Smith, J. H. Williard and W. P. Mathews; From Zion, Elders W. F. Bunn and J. D. Easter; From New River, Elder R. P. Vass and Brethren J. A. Semones and Coney Hill; From Upper Country Line, Elder O. J. Denny and Brother J. R. Jones. Received a file of minutes from Mayo, Abbotts Creek, Salem, Contentnea, Ebenezer, Mountain, New River, Pig River, Zion, Roaring River and Senter associations.

6. Re-elected our moderator and Clerk

7. Agreed that the Moderator and Clerk make all temporary appointments, and they appointed Deacons A. F. Stone, J. M. Eldridge and S. D. Key, to act with the moderator and clerk, as a committee on Arrangements: Elder George Denny and Brother J. R. Hall a Committee on Finance; Elders A. M. Denny, J. M. Royal and D. Collins a Committee on Correspondence; and C. W. Stone and J. P. Slaughter, with the moderator and messengers of this church, a Committee on Preaching.

8. The Committee on Preaching reported, for Saturday, Elders J. A. Fagg, R. P. Vass, and A. M. Denny to preach in the Missionary Baptist church; Elders E. M. Barnard, W. F. Bunn and J. M. Royal to preach in the Friends church; and Elders J. R. Wilson and O. J. Denny to preach in the Primitive Baptist church in the afternoon; and, for Sunday, Elders Sam McMillan, W. H. Atkinson and N. B. Gilbert to preach in the Primitive Baptist house; Elders J. R. Wilson, G. M. Trent and G. Denny to preach in Missionary Baptist church; Elders D. Collins, Geo. Denny and R. H. Riggan to preach in Friends church; Eld's O. J. Denny, J. A. Fagg and R. P. Vass to preach in the M. E. church.

9. Adjourned till Saturday, 9 o'clock in the morning.

SATURDAY MORNING, AUGUST, 12, 1916.

1. The deliberations were opened with praise and prayer, by Elder N. B. Gilbert, of Mayo Association.

2. Called the roll and struck off the names of absentees.

3. Committee on Arrangements reported and were disc'd.

4. Dispensed with the reading of Rules of Decorum.

5. Brother J. T. Riggan reported. The report was received and his appointment continued, the Association agreeing to bear his expenses in his continued search to locate the Rockspring church property, report to be made next year.

6. The presbytery to Union church, reported the ordination of Brother Jesse Dunbar to the full functions of the gospel ministry, by the laying on of hands and prayer, and the presbytery was discharged.

7. Called on Elder G. Denny for obituary of Deacon John Jones, and on Deacon W. A. Dunbar for obituary of Deacon W. A. Southern, both of which were received and ordered to be attached to these minutes; also, at the request of Stoney Creek church, the obituary of Deaconess Sallie A. Stone.

8. Correspondents to sister associations reported and were discharged.

9. Committee on Correspondence reported as follows: To Abbotts Creek, Elder H. D. Mickey, S. A. Taylor and A. Q. Hunter; To Mayo, Elder D. Collins, Elder H. D. Mickey, and J. P. Slaughter; To Smiths River, Elder G. O. Key, Elder F. P. Stone and Albert Smith; To Mountain, Elders W. H. Atkinson, J. M. Royal and R. H. Riggan; To Zion, W. H. Atkinson, J. R. Cruise and R. H. Riggan; To New River, Elders G. O. Key, George Denny and F. P. Stone; To Salem, Elders A. M. Denny, G. O. Key and George Denny; To Roaring River, Elder J. M. Royal, J. M. Eldredge and A. B. Key.

10. The Circular Letter, prepared by the Clerk, was ordered to be attached to these minutes.

11. Agreed to hold the next session of this Association with the church at Union, five miles west of Ararat station, in Surry county, N. C., begining on Friday before the second Sunday in August, 1917.

12. Agreed to have 1,200 of these minutes printed and distributed as usual.

13. Agreed to give our Clerk the usual fee of ten dollars.

14. Committee on Finance reported as follows :

Received from the churches		$28.35
Balance from last year		5.86
Paid for printing minutes and for postage	$18.00	
Paid to Clerk	10.00	
Balance in hand's of the Clerk	6.21	
Totals	$34.21	$34.21

15. Offered a resolution of thanks to the brethren, sisters and friends for their generous hospitality and kindness in entertaining the association, and adjourned to time and place appointed.

ELDER W. H. ATKINSON, Mod.

ELDER F. P. STONE, Clerk.

THE PREACHING.

FRIDAY—1 Elder R. P. Vass preached the introductory sermon, from Matt. 18:3; 2 Elder G. M. Trent; 3 Elder E. M. Barnard. The clerk failed to get their texts.

SATURDAY—1 Elder J. A. Fagg; 2 R. P. Vass (Clerk did not get their texts.); 3 Elder A. M. Denny, from Matt. 6:12-16; 4 Eld. W. F. Bunn, from Matt. 10:27; 5 Eld. N. B. Gilbert, from Zeph. 3:12; 6 Eld. J. M. Royal (Clerk failed to get his text.); 7 Elder O. J. Denny, from Acts 4:11; 8 Elder J. R. Wilson, from 1 Cor. 1:30.

SUNDAY—1 Elder Samuel McMillan, from St John 5:25; 2 Elder W. H. Atkinson, from Eccl. 1:2; 3 Eld. N. B. Gilbert, from Ps. 89:15. The Clerk, being at the Primitive Baptist house, failed to get the texts used at the other houses.——Clerk.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

Being appointed to write a Circular Letter for the consideration of the brethren who may compose the Eighty-Fourth Annual Session of the Fishers River Primitive Baptist Association, I feel impressed to use Rom. 8:13; "For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die; but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live." We feel that Paul has given us a nice lesson in this chapter. The first verse is: "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." Then we presume that he would say,

There is now therefore condemnation to them that walk after the flesh: "For to be carnally minded is death." Brethren, we shall keep this thought under consideration, for we know that the wages of sin is death; that the soul that sinneth, it shall die. Corporal death takes us from this world and the enjoyments of it. The death to sin takes the sinner out of the old world into a new one: for all things become new. Death to sin gives us the first conception of life, and the reason a sinner prays is because life has been imparted to him. It opens his eyes so he can see himself as a condemned sinner in the presence of a just God. We do not wonder at his first prayer being, "God be merciful to me a sinner." What an awful realization! In this death he has lost his desire for worldly amusements, feels that, if sent to hell, he will go begging for mercy: for justice is cutting him down. He has lived after the flesh all of his life. But Jesus came to save sinners; and he told Mary and Martha that he was the resurrection and the life. Every death requires a resurrection, and at his own appointed time he speaks peace to the troubled soul, and it is resurrected into life, and that mourning soul is filled with joy. He loves every body because he is filled with the Spirit of God, and God is love. Then he feels that he can ever mortify the deeds of the body and sin no more. But Paul knew the weakness of the flesh, and that was why he gave us so many lessons on how to live.

The first duty is to take up our cross (not our pleasures) and follow Jesus through evil as well as good report; and why did we desire this? Because we loved the brethren; and I wish to say right here, We have first to prove our love to the brethren, to establish the fact that we are born of God: for "we know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren."

Now there is a work for each of us to do; and the first is, We should mortify the deeds of the body, that we may live in the fellowship of the brethren and sisters. We fear that many brethren and sisters have let nature destroy their happiness in the church, because they wanted others to bear all the burdens of the church. But I want to say that God's people are a burden-bearing people, and one that will not help to carry the lame and wounded on his own shoulder is not worthy of the name, "Primitive Baptist." We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, for

Christ pleased not himself; but, as it is written, "The reproaches of them that reproached thee are fallen upon me."

Now, brethren, let us pray that the spirit of peace may be and remain in our midst, that we may be enabled to look each upon the other as a brother, and to forgive the trespasses of others as we would have our trespasses forgiven: for we have not long to live in this wilderness of woe. We are looking "for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God."

F. P. STONE.

OBITUARIES.

Deacon John W. Jones was born in Patrick county, Virginia, July 14, 1842, soon after which his parents moved to Stokes county, N. C. When he grew to manhood, he entered the Southern army and was a good soldier in the war. After the war, he returned to his home and went to work, and was blessed in his efforts. Feb. 24, 1867, he was married to Miss Mary B. Snow. To them were born two sons and four daughters. One daughter and one son preceded him to the shores of eternity. On March 19, 1915, he passed away to join the dear ones gone before, leaving his wife and four children to mourn their great loss.

The home of Brother Jones was a great resting place for all good people that passed that way, where they enjoyed the good of the land with Brother Jones, who lived to the age of 72 years, 8 months and 5 days. He faithfully discharged his duties in his home, his country and his church, the church of the living God. This is the confidence of the writer. May our devotion to the truth be like his.

(ELD.) GABRIEL DENNY.

Deacon W. B. Southern was born March 4, 1836, and died June 20, 1915, aged 79 years, 3 months and 16 days.

December 22, 1855, he was married to Miss Mary Teriel; and to them were born 13 children, 6 living to mourn the loss of a father.

Brother Southern joined the church at Toms Creek on Saturday before the first Sunday in July, 1887, and was ordained to the office of Deacon June 22, 1889.

He was a faithful member as long as he was able to go, and was strong in the faith as long as he lived. He was always ready to care for the Baptist people, and not only them, but was very careful to entertain strangers.

W. A. DUNBAR.

Deaconess Sallie A. Stone was born June 29, 1849; died Feb. 1, 1916, making her stay on earth 66 years, 7 months and 3 days. She was the daughter of

Wesley and Mary Ann stone, and was reared to womanhood by pious, industrious, God-fearing parents.

She made choice of her second cousin, Mr. Auguston F. Stone, as her life partner. They were happily married Feb. 25, 1880. They were successful in life, having plenty of the necessities of life, with something laid up for old age. Their home was a home for their friends, especially for Old Baptist preachers.

She professed a hope in early life, but never joined the church till Saturday before the third Sunday in October, 1911, when she and husband came before the church at Stoney Creek and were received. They were baptized next morning by the writer. She lived a consecrated Christian life till God called her to come over and rest from her labors.

Being deprived of motherhood, she and her husband adopted their nephew, Mr. Silas Stone, who grew up to call her blessed. Her friends were those who knew her, and those who knew her best loved her most. We can truthfully say, Cousin Sallie lived her religion, for her light was not under the bushel. Her neighbors could see and feel the influence of her Christian life. She was known by her orderly walk and godly conversation.

After three days of intense suffering, from Pneumonia, she fell asleep in Jesus; and after funeral services, by the writer, she was laid to rest in the cemetery at Stoney Creek, in the presence of a host of relatives and friends.

She left her husband, their adopted son, one brother, three sisters and many other relatives and friends to mourn their loss. We believe we voiced her feelings (before her death) when we stood around her silent grave, singing:

"Weep not for me as you stand 'round my grave,
Think who has gone, his beloved to save.
Think of the crown all the ransom'd shall wear,
When I am gone, when I am gone."

Written at the request of her bereaved husband, by

Her pastor,

F. P. STONE.

Francisco, N. C.

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF CHURCH CLERKS.

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Churches	Clerks	Postoffices	No. of Min.
Albion	E. D. Slate,	R. 1, Francisco, N. C.,	50
Ararat	Eld. Geo. Denny,	R. 3, Pinnacle, N. C.,	40
Deep Creek	G. D. Spencer,	Siloam, N. C.,	40
Fishers River	J. M. Nichols,	White Plains, N. C.,	30
Fishers Gap	R. B. Carson,	Low Gap, N. C.,	25
Franklin	R. H. Riggans,	Dobson, N. C.,	40
Hogans Creek	S. D. Key,	Siloam, N. C.,	35
Laurel Springs	Z. E. Chandler,	R. 3, Mt. Airy, N. C.,	25
Liberty			
Little Vine	Jacob Mitchell,	Dobson, N. C.,	40
Mulberry	J. M. Eldridge,	R. 1, State Road. N. C.,	35
Pilot Mountain	S. A. Taylor,	R. 1, Mt. Airy, N. C.,	65
Rock House	W. P. Smith,	R. 2, Pinnacle, N. C	60
State Road.	W. F. Nixon,	State Road, N. C.,	35
Stoney Creek	J. S. Morrison,	R. 1, Mt. Airy, N. C.,	60
Stuarts Creek	R. W. Mosley,	R. 3, Mt. Airy, N. C.,	55
Toms Creek	A. Q. Hunter,	R. 1, Pilot Mountain, N. C.	90
Union	C. W. Stone,	R. 1, Rockford, N. C.,	75
Volunteer	P. W. Lawrence,	R. 1, Pinnacle, N. C.,	25

DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES TO SISTER ASSOCIATIONS.

Associations	Clerks	Postoffices	No. of Min.
Abbotts Creek,	A. L. Owens,	R. 2, Salisbury, N. C.	20
Contentnea	Elder J. P. Tingle,	Grantsboro, N. C.	15
Ebenezer,	Eld. R. H Pittman,	Luray, Va	15
Eno,	G. C. Farthing,	Durham, N. C.	15
Kehukee,	Eld. B. S. Cowing,	R. 2, Williamston, N. C.	15
Ketocton,	Eld. T. S. Dalton,	Mc. Lean, Virginia.	15
Little River,	Eld. J. A. T. Jones,	McCullers, N. C.	15
L. Country Line,	J. H. Gooch,	Stem, N. C.	15
Mayo,	Eld. E. M. Barnard,	Peters Creek, Va.	25
Mountain,	J. M. Rector,	Baywood, Virginia	15
Mates Creek,	H. S. Carter,	Coleman, Kentucky	15
New River,	Eld. F. P. Branscome,	Laurel Fork, Virginia	20
Pig River,	Eld. E. L. Blankenship,	Boon Mill, Virginia	15
Roaring River,	M. L. Lyon,	Trap Hill, N. C.	15
Staunton River,	R. L. Dodson,	Ringold, Virginia	15
U. Country Line,	S. J. Hall,	Cedar Grove, N. C.	16
Zion,	C. L. Woltz,	Galax, Virginia,	20
Senter,	J. M. Dickson,	Crumpler, N. C.,	20
Smiths River,	Elder Q. D. Weeks,	R. 2, Willis, Virginia,	20
Salem,	W. L. Teague,	Winston-Salem, N. C.,	15

CHURCHES	NAMES OF MESSENGERS	Church Meetings	Ordained Min.	Licen ed Min.	Received by Ex.	Received by Let.	Restored	Dismissed by Let.	Excluded	Deceased	No. in Fellowship	Contributions
Albion	Albert Smith and E. D. Slate	4	2		3			1		1	38	2.00
Ararat	Elder A. M. Denny, A. Z. Denny and Sid Fulk	2	4	1	3			2		1	49	1 25
Deep Creek	J. L. Hall, J. R. Hall and J. H. Spencer	1			6			3			26	1.50
Fishers River	Wilson Creed and M. Nicols	2			3						21	.65
Fishers Gap	Not represented.											
Franklin	Elder R. H. Riggans and J. F. Riggans	3	2		3					1	45	1.00
Higgins Creek	S. D. Key and Joe Key	3							1		43	1.00
Laurel Springs	W. A. Dunbar and H. M. Southern	4									22	1.00
Liberty	C. H. Parker and R. S. Poindexter	1								1	29	1.00
Little Vine	Nathan Creed, J. J. Williams and J. S. McGhee	4								1	44	1.10
Mulberry	J. M. Eldredge and A. B. Key	1		1		1					27	1.25
Pilot Mountain	Elder G. O Key, J. A. Fry and Wm. Simmons	1	2		6	1				1	50	2.00
Rock House	Elder D. Collins, J. P. Slaughter and G. H. Lawson	2	2		14	1				1	65	1.75
State Road	Elder J. M. Royal and W. F. Nixon	3								1	26	1.00
Stoney Creek	A. F. Stone, J. L Tilley and J. E. Simmons	3		1	2						26	3.20
Stuarts Creek	Elder J. R. Cruise, R. W. Mosley and P. W. Watson	3	1								72	1.50
Toms Creek	A Q. Hunter, Louis Priddy and Samuel Arrington	2	4	1	10	1					108	3.50
Union	K. D. Key, C. W. Stone and E. W. Mosley	4	2	1	18	1		1			93	2.75
Volunteer	Elder W. M. Stone and P W. Lawrence	3	2								32	.85
	Totals		18	5	68	5		7	1	8	826	$28.30

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